

Short guide 8: Making sense of the Learning Progressions

What do you already know? In New Zealand the national benchmark for literacy is Step 4 of the Learning Progressions and for numeracy, it is at Step 5. The sections below and on the next page summarise some of the key things you can look for to see if your learners are reaching these benchmarks.

Literacy at Step 4:

If your learners can do the things below, they are probably at Step 4. If they can't, they may be at Step 3 or below.



Write to Communicate - Can your learners:

Write for different audiences?

Use and spell longer and more specialised words accurately, e.g., specifications, leakage?

Know how to use " " and write longer sentences, using commas and full-stops accurately?

Plan what they write?

Organise sentences and paragraphs?

Check and correct errors in their writing?



Read with Understanding - Can your learners:

Understand more specialised words, e.g., julienne, gauge, mitre, dwang?

Identify writer's purpose, e.g., inform, persuade, describe?

Evaluate and compare information within and across texts?

Understand a range of different text types, e.g., news articles, poems, instructions?

Understand longer and more complicated sentences and paragraphs?

Use a range of reading strategies?

Find, organise and summarise important information?



Listen and Speak to Communicate - Can your learners:

Understand and use more complex words? (cantilever, potable, insulation)

Understand and use ways to make their meaning clear in longer interactions? (repetition, asking for clarification, checking for meaning etc)

Understand and communicate on a range of topics?

Use a range of strategies and know what to do when understanding breaks down

Evaluate the truth, relevance and value of what the speaker is saying?

Respond to and use appropriate skills and language to manage interactions?

Numeracy at Step 5:

If your learners can do the things below, they are probably at Step 4. If they can't, they may be at Step 3 or below.



Use number to solve problems - Can your learners:

- Add and subtract using whole numbers and decimals?*
- Use partitioning strategies to make calculations easier? ($7 + 6 = 7 + 3 + 3$ & $10 + 3$)*
- Multiply and divide using multi-digit numbers, fractions?*
- Do simple conversions between fractions, decimals and percentages?*
- Sequence numbers back and forth?*
- Describe how many tenths, hundredths and thousandths are in any given number?*
- Describe common factors up to 100?*



Measure and interpret shape and space - Can your learners:

- Describe the features of 2D and 3D shapes?*
- Work out surface area and volume?*
- Describe the size, position and orientation of shapes?*
- Describe and understand location, direction and distance?*
- Measure the side, perimeters and areas of triangles, circles and rectangles?*
- Convert within measurement systems? ($200\text{mm} = 20\text{cm}$)?*



Reason statistically - Can your learners:

- Sort, organise and describe data?*
- Use tables and graphs?*
- Draw conclusions and make predictions based on data?*
- Describe trends and important features?*
- Compare 2 or more pieces of data?*

Link to the learning progressions: <https://www.literacyandnumeracyforadults.com/resources/354426>

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